

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-7 are pending in the application; reexamination and reconsideration are hereby requested.

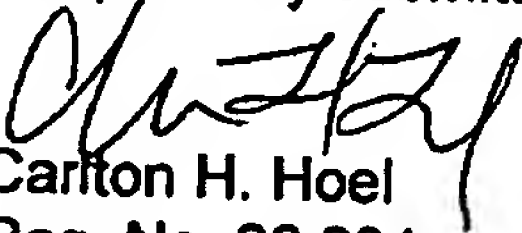
Claims 1-4 were rejected as anticipated by Saeki; the Examiner pointed to Figs. 1-2 for the grid blocks required by claim 1.

Applicants reply that the blocks in Saeki are for defining motion vectors between key frames and use the usual block matching for motion vectors and not grid block tracking. Saeki column 4, lines 39-60 describe the motion vector for a block in the first key frame but a "corresponding area" in the second key frame. This "corresponding area" typically is not a grid block because it does not align to the grid. Thus the motion vectors of Saeki do not suggest the grid block motion description of claim 1. Consequently, Saeki does not suggest claim 1 and its dependent claims 2-4.

Claims 5-6 were rejected as anticipated by Smith. The Examiner pointed to items of Fig.2.

Applicants reply that Smith does not suggest the step (d) of claim 5 of associating the feature vector to the video object; rather, Smith is just a database of images (column 4, lines 64-67). The preamble to claim 5 has been amended to make this explicit. Consequently, Smith does not suggest claim 5 and its dependent claim 6.

Respectfully submitted,



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